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STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

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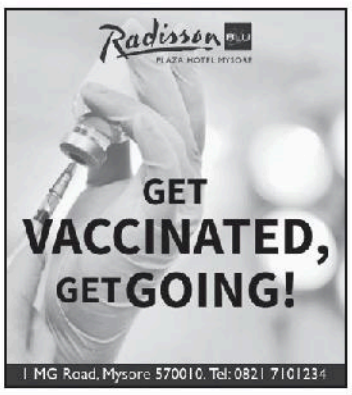

Fake vehicle loan racket busted

15 arrested; Police suspect involvement of RTO officials

Mysuru, July 2 (RK&BCT)- The City Police have busted a gang that adopted an unusual method of borrowing loans and cheating a finance company to the tune of Rs. 1,35,53,000 on heavy vehicles that do not exist.

The Police have arrested 15 accused for the fraud, while many more, including RTO officials, are to be traced.

The arrested have been booked for forgery, cheating and criminal breach of trust. The complaint was lodged by the Manager of Cholamandalam

Finance Company in Devaraja Police Station limits and the fraud was carried out after creating fake documents, fake vehicle chassis number and other parameters to obtain loans from the finance company.

The finance company unearthed the scam when the accused started defaulting on repayment of loan. The company later carried out an investigation and found that it is a well-planned fraud racket. The accused have taken loans for more than 15 vehicles by forging documents.

The arrested have been identified as C. Periyaswamy, Manju, M. Ganesh, Mahesh, William Rajkumar, Madeshan, Sathyavelu, Ajit Kumar, Antony, Anand Kumar, Prakash, R. Ashok Kumar, A. Manohar, Gurupadaswamy and K.S. Shanthakumar, all from Kollegal Taluk. While Manohar was an expert in changing and fabricating chassis numbers of all vehicles, Ashok Kumar prepared fake RC books and the Police suspect that there is involvement of certain officials from the Regional Transport Office (RTO).

Investigation so far has revealed that the accused had prepared forged papers for the purchase of trucks and buses of TATA and Ashok Leyland companies. They also prepared forged general insurance papers for these vehicles and got them registered in RTOs.

(See RACKET on page 7)

‘Cheer4India’ Selfie Point set up at City Railway Station

Photos of some selected players supplied to media irks many SWR sportspersons

Mysuru, July 2 (MTY&BCT)- Following Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s statement that every player taking part in the Tokyo Olympics this year must be encouraged, the Indian Railways has launched a ‘Cheer4India’ campaign for all Olympic-bound Indian athletes. As part of the campaign, a Selfie Point has been set up at Mysuru City Railway Station.

However, the ‘Selfie Point’ photo at City Railway Station supplied to the media by South Western Railway (SWR) authorities has irked a section of sportspersons who have made national and international fame. Expressing their displeasure near the Selfie Point this morning, they alleged that genuine achievers have been ignored.

Through his ‘Mann Ki Baat’, monthly radio programme, Modi said last Sunday, “Every player taking part in the Tokyo Olympics this year has struggled to get where they are today. They are not just going there for themselves but for the nation. These players will have to bring laurels to the nation and also win people’s hearts,” he had said.

(See SELFIE POINT on page 6)

International and National athletes representing Railways seen cheering for India *(from left)* ***T.U. Anil (National athlete), Mahesh (National volleyball player), Hani (International volleyball player), Harish (National volleyball player) and Mayur Subbaiah (International Hockey player).***

Will Pratap Simha make it to Modi Cabinet?

28 new faces to be inducted; PM meets Council of Ministers

New Delhi/Mysuru, July 2 (BCT)- Political circles are abuzz with speculation of possible expansion of the Narendra Modi Cabinet and the rejig is likely to be announced soon.

At present, there are 53 Ministers in the Cabinet and as per reports, the new Cabinet would have 81 members and 28 new berths as there are several Ministers who are holding multiple portfolios. Reports suggest new faces could be given the responsibility of such Ministries.

Sources say that among the new Ministers who will make the cut are heavyweights including former Congress leader from Madhya Pradesh Jyotiraditya Scindia, who is now in the BJP, former Bihar Deputy CM Sushil Modi, senior BJP organisational heavyweights Party Gen. Secretary Bhupender Yadav from Rajasthan and Kailash Vijayvargiya from Madhya Pradesh, who was in charge of the BJP campaign in West Bengal.

(See PRATAP SIMHA on page 6)

These are speculations: MP Pratap Simha

Speaking to *Star of Mysore* this morning on his name doing the rounds for a Ministerial berth in Modi Cabinet, MP Pratap Simha said that these were just rumours. “I am happy to work under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and moreover I have a lot more to do for my Constituency of Mysuru and Kodagu,” he said.

“I have no such ambitions or expectations nor am I lobbying for a Minister’s post. The people of Mysuru and Kodagu have reposed their faith in me and I will not fail their expectations. I have initiated several development works and a lot more needs to be done and I am happy to be with my electorate,” he added.

STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Friday 2nd July 2021

CA exams from July 5,

SC modifies opt-out scheme

New Delhi, July 2 (UNI) - The Supreme Court on Wednesday asked Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) to modify the opt-out facility provided to the students for the examinations beginning on July 5.

A Bench of Justices A.M. Khanwilkar, Dinesh Maheshwari and Aniruddha Bose was hearing three separate petitions seeking exam postponement, opt-out options, more centres and an extra chance on upcoming Chartered Accountant (CA) exam 2021.

The Top Court directed ICAI to provide opt-out facility to even those students who changed their centres at the last moment in the same city.

However, the Top Court laid down a few conditions in regards to opt-out of the exam due to COVID-19.

The candidates or their family members who are contracted COVID-19 and could not prepare or appear for the exam due to this reason will not necessarily be required to produce RT-PCR test to avail opt-out option.

Earlier, the ICAI had informed the Apex Court that since there is a dip in the number of COVID-19 cases, it is in the best interest of 3.74 lakh candidates that CA exams are held as scheduled in July instead of postponing it for later date.

The Bench had asked the Accountancy Body to provide detailed plans on how it intends to secure the exam halls from infection.

The ICAI should have a "competent authority" with medical experience to chalk out the objective standards by which candidates could opt out of the July exams and try again in the November 2021 examination cycle, the Bench said.

The Court asked the Counsel if alternate methods other than the RT-PCR certificate can be adopted to assess whether a candidate is medically unfit to appear for the exams scheduled to start from July 5 due to COVID-19 related difficulties.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

Keep in mind that vaccines have different reactions for different people. Some have just a headache or body pain, while many have high fever for 2-3 days. And some go through the day like nothing ever happened. So based on how your body feels, you can plan your workouts. You don't have to skip any workout, but at the same time don't push your body for a workout. Even if you have the slightest fatigue, listen to your body. What you can also do, is keep your training low to moderate intensity. It might be best to not attempt anything very intense for the next two days. If you are wondering about which activities might be more suitable, try walking or brisk walking, both of which can be wonderful for the body and not intense at all. Maybe you could also try a yoga session or an easy dance session. After two days of the vaccination, you can go back to the routine you were regularly following before you got the jab. It is also important to ensure you are eating well.

That means you need to eat good nutritious food and involve plenty of hydration and good protein-dense meals. Combat the post-vaccination soreness as much as you can, which will aid better recovery. And most importantly, your quality of sleep will matter too. So make sure you rest better and get some high-quality sleep as you get back into shape.

— Shwetambari Shetty in The New Indian Express

NEWS SPARKLERS

Monk who has saved thousands of strays

Shanghai: A Buddhist monk in Shanghai, has dedicated more than half of his life to caring for stray dogs, rescuing and taking care of tens of thousands of them since 1994.

53-year-old Zhixiang is the head monk of the Bao'en Temple in Shanghai, but nowadays his disciples take care of most of the day-to-day business, as he spends all his time taking care of the rescued animals. There are currently around 8,000 dogs, not to mention hundreds of cats, as well as chicken, geese and peacocks in Zhixiang's care, but he's been rescuing abandoned and stray animals since 1994, so he is used to it. Over the years, he has learnt to administer medicine and give the animals shots, as taking them all to a vet would be too costly and only recently started taking donations from other animal lovers, as a ways to make ends meet.

112-year-old is world's oldest living man

Puerto Rico: Guinness World Records announced a new record holder for the world's oldest living man: 112-year-old Emilio Flores Marquez of Puerto Rico.

The record-keeping organisation said Marquez, of Trujillo Alto, was the world's oldest living man at age 112 years and 326 days. Marquez was born Aug. 8, 1908, in Carolina, Puerto Rico. He was the second of 11 children born to his parents.

"My dad raised me with love and taught me to love everyone. He always told me and my brothers and sisters to do good, to share everything with others," Marquez said.

Marquez was married to Andrea Perez De Flores for over 75 years prior to her death in 2010. The couple had four children, two of whom are still living.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Covid infection may prove more problematic in newborns(upto one year of age).These small babies have to be avoided infection at all cost. Strictly following SMS and vaccination by all family members as soon as possible will be a must.

By Dr. Bhuvaneshwar U.S. - Consultant Paediatrician

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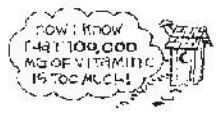
** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*



Because Vitamin C is water-soluble, it is quickly flushed from the body. It has a half-life of only 30 minutes. Therefore, side effects are rare. If you take extremely high doses of Vitamin C, your body will let you know with loose stools or diarrhoea.

COVID-19 UPDATE - MYSURU

DATES	JUNE 30	JULY 1
Day's Positive Cases	367	366
Total Positive Cases	1,66,574	1,66,940
Day's Discharges	268	247
Total Discharges	1,60,027	1,60,274
Day's Deaths	14	5
Total Deaths	2,177	2,182
Total Active Cases	4,370	4,484

NOTE: Figures as per Government Media Bulletin

Karnataka Vaggeya Vahini

Mysuru, July 2- Sri Thyagaraja Sangeetha Sabha Charitable Trust, Mysuru, will be presenting the third episode under its ongoing series, '*Karnataka Vaggeya Vahini,*' aimed at introducing compositions of senior composers of Karnataka, featuring a composition of Prof. R. Visweswaran, on Sabha's YouTube Channel, 'Sri Thyagaraja Sangeetha Sabha Charitable Trust'. This online music event to be premiered on Saturday (July 3) will have teaching session by Prof. Visweswaran and presentation by students at 5 pm, according to Vid. H. K. Narasimhamurthy, Honorary Secretary. [Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/stssct YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5duKEUSvk8XXBra6TWQnSA]

Prof. R. Visweswaran

REALLY...?

- *Cotton lasts for 100 years. The expected life span of cotton fabric is about 100 years. If you look after it could be even longer. Cotton fabric has been found in many archaeological sites.*
- *Zippers were invented in 1893.*
- *Sewing was one of the first skills Homo Sapiens learnt. Archaeologists believe that people used to sew together fur, hide, skin and bark for clothing as far back as 25,000 years ago.*

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Sylvia: *Dad, can you write in the dark?*
Dad: *I think so. What do you want me to write?*
Sylvia: *Your name on this report card !!*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 74.75
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 102.89
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 20.35
1 Euro	= Rs. 88.52

VOICE OF THE READER

What ails electricity supply in some areas of Mysuru?

Sir,

It has been very obviously observed that at least three times a week from morning 11 am till 5 pm or 6 pm there is no power supply in Lakshmipuram.

Most often out of 10 calls hardly 1-2 calls get answered. The standard answer is cable laying work is going on and since it is unscheduled we don't notify.

June 22: 11 am till 5 pm; June 24: afternoon till 4 pm; June 25: 11 am till 6 pm - no power; June 27: 1 pm to 4 pm; June 29:12 noon till 5 pm (just called to get the timing confirmed) no power.

Unfortunately we as consumers find it very difficult to manage the gadgets and specially when the lockdown was there, to store items in refrigerators.

Can the CESC look into these and let us know how many more weeks this will continue?

Besides these power cuts, every time it rains there are further unscheduled power cuts.

How can we expect Mysuru to be Smart City if a basic need of regular power supply becomes very regularly irregular?

—Shamala Padmanabhan
on e-mail
Lakshmipuram
29.6.2021

First-of-its-kind COVID Warrior Memorial to be built in Bengaluru: Minister

Bengaluru, July 2 (UNI)- Health and Medical Education Minister Dr. K. Sudhakar on Thursday said Karnataka Government will build a COVID Warrior Memorial, first-of-its-kind, in honour of doctors and paramedical staff who 'martyred' themselves in the fight against Coronavirus.

Dr. K. Sudhakar

Speaking at a function to celebrate National Doctors' Day here, he said, "We will build a Memorial to pay homage to those doctors who lost their lives due to COVID while rendering their services in our Arogya Soudha premises."

He said his Department has decided to build it in a unique way in memory of doctors and paramedics, which will be on par with the War Memorial in New Delhi where anyone can go and pay their respects.

He said the Memorial will be placed where everyone can come and pay tributes.

Stating that about 800 doctors died due to COVID in the country during the second wave, Dr. Sudhakar said many of them left behind their families including children in the line of duty.

He also said in the next few weeks the sketch of the structure would be ready. After the structure is ready, the family members of the martyrs will be invited to pay their tributes.

The Minister also paid his homage to late Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy, former Chief Minister of West Bengal, who was also a noted Physician, for his contribution to the medical field and in whose memory his birthday is celebrated across India as National Doctors Day on July 1.

Odisha poet selected for Kuvempu National Award

Bengaluru, July 2 (UNI)- Renowned Odisha poet Dr. Rajendra Kishore Panda has been selected for the Kuvempu Rashtriya Puraskar, the National Award instituted in memory of Rashtrakavi Kuvempu, for the year 2020.

Dr. Rajendra Kishore Panda

The award carries Rs. 5 lakh cash prize, a silver medal and a citation. Dr. Panda's name was finalised by a three-member panel comprising Kannada poet Dr. H.S. Shivaprakash, Agrahara Krishnamurthy, former Secretary of Central Sahitya Academy and Bengali author Shyamal Bhattacharya, according to a release from Kadidal Prakash, Secretary of Rashtrakavi Kuvempu Pratishtana, Kuppalli in Shivamogga district.

The committee met under the Chairmanship of Prof. Hampa Nagarajaiah and selected Dr. Panda for the award.

The award is given annually to a writer who has contributed to any of the languages recognised in the Constitution of India. While the award is being presented in Kuppalli, Kuvempu's birthplace in Shivamogga district, on December 29 to mark Kuvempu's birth anniversary, the announcement of the award for 2020 had been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Born in 1944, Dr. Panda is a poet and novelist from Odisha. He has published 16 poetry and novel collections. He was awarded the National Gangadhar Award in 2010 and the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1985. He was awarded the D.Lit. from Sambalpur University.

Venkaiah Naidu calls for removing vaccine hesitancy among people

Chennai, July 2 (UNI)- Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu has emphasised the need to educate people on the importance of COVID-19 vaccination and urged all stakeholders to work collectively to achieve the target of full vaccination by the year end.

Venkaiah Naidu

Speaking at a book presentation function on the occasion of Doctors' Day here yesterday, he underlined the need to address vaccine hesitancy in some sections of the population, especially in rural areas.

"There is a need to dispel fears in some sections and the vaccination drive should turn into a truly pan-India 'Jan Andolan'," he said and urged the medical fraternity to take a lead in creating awareness and educating the people on the importance of getting themselves vaccinated.

Stating that community support was critical in the fight against Coronavirus, the Vice-President of India said those having vaccine hesitancy should be made aware of the fact that they were putting their own lives and those of their family members at avoidable risk.

Asking the Centre and States to work together in 'Team India' spirit to quicken the pace of the vaccine campaign, Naidu appealed to civil society members and icons in various fields, including film personalities, sportspersons and people's representatives, cutting across party lines, to come forward and encourage people to go for vaccination. "We need to understand that vaccination has to be a collective responsibility of all of us", he added.

Observing that rapid vaccination was the key to defeating the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President said India has already administered more than 32 crore doses surpassing the total number of vaccinations done in the United States.

Government aims to build Medical Colleges in all Districts

Bengaluru, July 2 (UNI)- Karnataka Government is taking measures to reach out to the remotest village and has plans to establish Medical Colleges in every District, said Deputy Chief Minister Dr. C.N. Ashwathnarayan, who is also the Minister for Higher Education.

Dr. Ashwathnarayan

He was speaking after virtually inaugurating 'RAMSIECON 2021 — Recent Advances in Medical Sciences International E-Conference' organised by Yenepoya (Deemed to be University) yesterday.

Appreciating the University for holding such a conference to bring in improvisation in medical and health infrastructure, he discussed the measures being taken up by the Government on health infrastructure and innovations.

"We are integrating tech-based solutions and focusing on a strong industry-academia collaboration to make our student friends future-ready with employable skills," he added.

Teacher Eligibility Test

Bengaluru, July 2- The Karnataka Teacher Eligibility Test (K-TET)- 2021 for appointment as teachers in Government Schools will take place on Aug. 22.

The candidates must have passed PUC with a D.Ed qualification to apply for teacher posts in Primary Schools (first to fifth standards) and a Degree with D.Ed/B.Ed/ B.A.Ed/B.Sc. Ed course for teacher posts in Higher Primary Schools (sixth to eighth standards). Those who have appeared for final year of qualifying exam and awaiting results can also apply.

The eligible candidates can apply through the Department website before July 20.

The hall tickets can be downloaded from the Department website *https://sts.karnataka.gov.in/TET/* from Aug.12.

The TET certificate will have a lifetime validity, according to Primary and Secondary Education Minister Suresh Kumar.

Govt. permits direct appointment of College Principals & Assistant Professors

Mysuru, July 2 (SPN&DM)- In some good news for the teaching fraternity, the Finance Department has granted permission for the Higher Education Department to directly appoint Principals and Assistant Professors in Government First Grade Colleges. The recruitment will be made for 310 posts of Principal and 1,242 posts of Assistant Professors that are lying vacant in various Government Degree Colleges across the State.

S. Harsha, Under Secretary to the Department of Higher Education (Collegiate Education) has directed the authorities concerned to fill up the vacancies through a direct recruitment following the Finance Department's approval on June 25.

Deadline extended

Mysuru, July 2- In some relief for lorry owners, the Government has extended the deadline for payment of vehicle tax without penalty to July 15.

Karnataka Lorry Owners Association President G.R. Shanmugappa said that June 30 was the last date for payment of vehicle tax for lorry owners.

But following the Association's request to Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa, the Government has extended the deadline without penalty to July 15.

NEWS BRIEFS

R. Vasudev Bhat on AIR on July 7

The interview of city-based Sri Jana Jagaran Seva Trust President and RSS leader R. Vasudev Bhat will be re-broadcast on All India Radio (AIR) at 12.45 pm on July 7 under 'Maa Phalesu Kadachana' serial programme. Bhat's interview on the services rendered by the Trust during the COVID pandemic was first broadcast on AIR this morning. This series is broadcast every Friday at 9.15 am and Vasudev Bhat's interview will be re-broadcast on July 7. Writer Prabhuswamy Malimath will moderate the programme, according to a press release.

Applications invited

The District Education Department has invited applications from eligible candidates for appointment as Education Resource teacher posts in the existing vacancies on contract basis. Appointment will be made for one teacher post in Primary School and six in High Schools. The selected candidates are required to do duties concerning education of specially-abled children. The applicants must have a D.Ed (Primary School) and B.Ed (High School) in special education. Interested qualified candidates can apply at the Office of the Department of Public Instruction, D. Subbaiah road, Mysuru, before July 5.

Ban on tourist stay in Kodagu till July 5

Entry of migrants allowed after hand-stamping; estate owners to take their full responsibility

Madikeri/Kushalnagar, July 2 (PS,Akshay&BCT)- Following an uproar against the free movement of tourists from various destinations into Kodagu spreading COVID infections, the District Administration has clarified that the stay of tourists in home stays, resorts, star hotels and lodges is totally banned till July 5 and no tourism activity is allowed.

However, the entry of migrant workers from other States to work in coffee estates has been allowed where the owners of estates have to give an undertaking that they will take full responsibility of quarantining, RT-PCR tests and other mandatory requirements. All migrants arriving in the district are being hand-stamped at the borders.

Addressing reporters in Madikeri on Wednesday, Assistant Commissioner Eshwar Kumar Kandu, who is also Tourism Department Deputy Director, said that if people come across instances where tourists are staying in Kodagu despite the present ban till July 5, they may inform the District Administration through Helpline 1077.

"We will act according to the Government's directives on allowing tourism activities only after July 5. Action will be taken against any illegal tourism activities during the lockdown period. A task force comprising officials from the Police, Revenue and Tourism Departments has been formed to inspect home stays and resorts," he said.

Migrant workers from Assam and other States being hand-stamped at Kushalnagar check-post yesterday morning.

The licences of two home stays that have violated lockdown guidelines have been scrapped and cases will be booked against them under the Disaster Management Act. Measures have been taken to restrict the entry of tourist vehicles at the check-posts on all the district borders, he added.

Vehicle entry into Kodagu has seen a rise since the past few days and all the people who come here are not tourists as many of them travel towards Mangaluru and Kerala. "We are keeping a close watch and check-posts have also been alerted for keeping a tab on visitors. RT-PCR negative reports are mandatory for those entering the State from Kerala. Also, RAT (Rapid Antigen Test) is also being done at Kutta and Makutta check-posts," he added.

After a brief lull, the flow of hundreds of migrants from Assam, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh along with their families into various coffee estates has resumed. However, they are being hand-stamped at the borders. Taking objection to this, several residents have demanded that all the migrants must be subjected to RT-PCR tests and those testing positive must be mandatorily quarantined.

Even the hand-stamping process is being done in a lackadaisical manner with no date of stamping mentioned and also the indelible ink of the stamp not clearly visible. The date was, however, restored after the issue was highlighted by local residents.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, Somwarpet Tahsildar Govindaraju said that the Deputy Commissioner Charulata Somal has instructed them to allow the migrant entry so that the work in coffee estates is not disrupted.

"The estate owners requiring workers have to submit an undertaking to the District Administration that they would take full ownership of the migrant workers including their 14-day quarantine and the subsequent RT-PCR tests. The estate owners are required to take written permission for this and action will be taken against them if the disease spreads," he added.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM

Maximum	:	124.80	feet
Today	:	92.38	feet
Yesterday	:	92.86	feet
Inflow	:	1,291	cusecs
Outflow	:	4,753	cusecs

KABINI DAM

Maximum	:	2,284.00	feet
Today	:	2,275.84	feet
Inflow	:	1,116	cusecs
Outflow	:	700	cusecs

HARANGI DAM

Maximum	:	2,859.00	feet
Today	:	2,841.55	feet
Inflow	:	387	cusecs
Outflow	:	80	cusecs

Vijayendra distributes ration kits to Mysuru Zoo staff

Mysuru, July 2 (MTY&DM)- State BJP Vice-President B.Y. Vijayendra, who heads MySeva Foundation, distributed ration kits to over 350 staff and attendants of Mysuru Zoo at a programme organised in the Zoo premises here recently.

Speaking on the occasion, Vijayendra said that the Zoo staff were facing a lot of hardship due to COVID-induced lockdown. As such, MySeva Foundation, as part of its service activities, has come to their help by distributing ration kits in this hour of crisis.

COVID measures

Highlighting the measures taken by the Government for handling COVID crisis, he said that CM B.S. Yediyurappa has announced a Rs. 1 lakh compensation to all families who lost their earning member due to COVID.

Noting that BSY has announced a financial package to the affected sections of the society despite financial constraints, he ridiculed the Congress for making only hostile comments against the Government, while doing nothing for COVID affected families.

Mysuru Zoo Executive Director Ajit M. Kulkarni, Zoo Authority of Karnataka (ZAK) Chairman L.R. Mahadevaswamy, ZAK members Gokul Govardhan and Jyothi Rechanna, MUDA Chairman H.V. Rajeev, KEA Chairman Hemanth Kumar Gowda, D. Devaraj Urs Backward Classes Development Corporation Chairman Raghu Kautilya, leader S.C. Ashok and a host of other officials and political leaders were present on the occasion.

750 students, staff vaccinated at Maharaja's College

Mysuru, July 2 (MTY&SSV)- As many as 750 students and staff of Maharaja's Degree College received vaccination in a special drive conducted yesterday to protect them from COVID-19 pandemic. The State Government has directed Health Department to hold a special campaign to vaccinate18-plus students of all courses in view of re-opening of colleges from August 1.

Accordingly, the vaccination was held in the Centenary Hall premises under the aegis of Health and Family Welfare Department and College Teachers' Association. The Department has plans to vaccinate 3,500 students pursuing degree, Post-Graduate courses and the staff members in the first phase.

Five counters were opened to register the names of beneficiaries. First, they underwent COVID test and then vaccination was done.

Prof. Anita Vimla Braggs, Principal, Maharaja's College and Prof. R. Siddaraju, Nodal Officer of the special vaccination drive, were present on the occasion.

Vaccinate women, kids before third wave: Dr. Pushpa Amarnath

Mysuru, July 2 (MTY&SSV)- KPCC Women's Wing State President Dr. Pushpa Amarnath has urged the Department of Women and Child Development to hold a special scheme to vaccinate women and children before the third wave of COVID-19 pandemic hits the State.

Talking to reporters here yesterday, she said the Government has utterly failed to manage the second wave of pandemic. Vaccination has come to a standstill across the State due to vaccine short supply. Before recovering from the second wave, experts have warned of the possible third wave that may affect kids. Taking serious note of this, women and children must be vaccinated, she said.

Dr. Pushpa Amarnath

Dr. Pushpa stressed on distributing nutrition food kits to Anganwadi Centres to protect the kids from third wave. The Congress Party had distributed those kits which was sufficient for a month. The Opposition party was doing the job of ruling party. The Government must distribute the food kits that were sufficient for the next three months, she said.

The District Administration had claimed to make Mysuru District COVID-free by July 1 but there has been no decline in Case Positivity Rate and Mortality Rate. Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha has gone missing without helping people in distress, she noted.

The Congress leader said a special session of the State Assembly must be convened to discuss the preparations for third wave. Other nations like US, Russia and Europe were vaccinating children but it was yet to begin in India. The rise in prices of fuel and essential commodities has made a common man's life miserable. The BJP leaders were defending the price hike claiming that it was being done to mop up resources to buy COVID vaccine. In that case, what happened to money collected by the Government in the form of taxes, she questioned.

12,863 UoM staff, students yet to receive first dose

Mysuru, July 2 (MK&SSV)- University of Mysore (UoM) authorities have informed the District Administration that as many as 12,863 students, teaching and non-teaching staff of all Degree Colleges are yet to receive the first dose of vaccination.

So far, six vaccination drives have been held in which 2,868 have been vaccinated. On June 21, a special drive was held at Senate Bhavan in which 1,472 students received vaccination. Every day, vaccination is done at Health Centre in Maharaja's College campus. The students, teaching and non-teaching staff members must take the vaccine without fail, said Prof. R. Shivappa, Registrar, UoM.

Those who wish to take vaccine may contact Prof. R. Siddaraju, Department of Economics and Co-operation, who is also the Nodal Officer for vaccination and Satish Bhat, Department of Statistics.

Expedite vaccination for College students, staff

Ashwathnarayan

Bengaluru, July 2 (KMS&SSV)- Deputy Chief Minister and Higher Education Minister Dr. C.N. Ashwathnarayan has asked all Vice-Chancellors of Universities to ensure vaccination of students above 18 years at the earliest.

Holding a virtual meet with Vice-Chancellors yesterday, he said as per schedule, the College students need to be inoculated before July 7 and the VCs must try to complete vaccination by that time. However, time limit could be extended by two or three days, if necessary, he added.

The Minister said students were being vaccinated as priority group to facilitate starting offline classes for the higher education courses. The date of opening of physical classes would depend upon the success of the ongoing vaccination drive. The Government was ready to extend all cooperation in this regard, he noted.

College students vaccinated

Vaccination drive was conducted in the Mysuru Royal Institute of Technology (MRIT) in Srirangapatna on June 30. MRIT Principal Dr. H.S. Suresh Chandra inaugurated the drive and spoke about the importance of vaccination in recent times. Srirangapatna Health Officer Dr. Venkatesh, HoD of Civil Engineering Department Prof. N. Nakul and others were present. Total of 200 doses of Covishield vaccines were administered by the Taluk Health Workers.

MP inspects proposed Flyover spot at Ring Road-KRS Road junction

Mysuru, July 2 (RKB&DM)- With Mysuru all set to get its second Flyover after the first one at Hinkal Junction on Hunsur Road, Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha this morning visited the Ring Road-KRS Road junction near Hotel Royal Inn on KRS Road, where the second Flyover will come up.

Exactly six months after he visited the spot (on Jan.2, 2021) when he had asked the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and other concerned officials to come up with a revised DPR (Detailed Project Report) for the Flyover project, the MP inspected the spot with the revised DPR in hand and discussed the technical aspects of the Flyover.

With increasing traffic density at the Junction (which is an intersection of several roads) caused by continuous movement of vehicles from all sides and a Railway level crossing (Mysuru-Hassan-Arasikere Railway line) located closeby on KRS Road, the NHAI, along with other Government bodies had proposed to construct the Flyover in order to ease traffic congestion and facilitate free movement of vehicles.

The Flyover is proposed to be constructed on the stretch from Brigade Apartments opposite Coastal Garden Hotel till the District Hospital on KRS Road.

Speaking to presspersons after the inspection, Pratap Simha said that the Hotel Royal Inn junction is an intersection of seven busy roads that frequently resulted in traffic snarls, road jams and accidents, causing loss of lives and injuries to motorists.

Taking note of the high traffic density at this junction, he had appealed the NHAI for the construction of the Flyover with financial support from MCC, MUDA, Railways and PWD. Now a revised DPR with technical specifications has been prepared, which will be submitted to the Government for approval. Highlighting the features of the Flyover, he said that there will be a service road on either side and a green cover on both the sides.

STREET-LIGHTS

Referring to the dysfunctional street-lights on the 42-km Ring Road which has made the road a haven for criminals, he said the Ring Road has about 2,400 street-lights and it has come to his notice that most of them have become dysfunctional.

Attributing the non-functioning of street-lights to damages caused to underground electric cables, wear and tear of cable network and other factors, he assured that the matter will be resolved soon and the Ring Road will glitter again by Dasara.

When asked about the proposed Flyover at Columbia Asia Hospital junction on the ever busy Mysuru-Bengaluru Highway, the MP said that this will also be taken up shortly and the preparation of the DPR has been set in motion.

National Highways State Division Engineer R. Hemalatha, SE D.N. Krishnamurthy, MCC Commissioner G. Lakshmikantha Reddy, MUDA Chairman H.V. Rajeev, Railway Deputy Chief Engineer I. Prabhagaran, senior SE N. Shashi, AEE V.P. Prasad and other officials were present.

Will Pratap Simha make it to Modi Cabinet?

(Continued from page 1)

Also doing the rounds is the name of Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha, who is a two-time MP. Simha has maintained a cordial relationship with Union Ministers and is known to get his work done for his Constituency. His name has figured prominently among the strong contenders from Karnataka. In fact, his is the only name that has figured in the probable list of Ministers.

As Karnataka will go to election in 2023 (Assembly) and Parliament in 2024, the BJP is hoping to scale up its seats based on the performance of the Ministers from now. This performance will be crucial for the party to impress the electorate. Sources said that Modi wants many new faces and go-getters in his Cabinet along with the existing senior Ministers who have demonstrated good work.

The reshuffle is being prompted by some vacancies caused by untimely deaths of Ministers such as Ram Vilas Paswan and Suresh Angadi and the resignation of Akali Dal and Shiv Sena leaders.

On Wednesday, Modi presided over a marathon meeting with his Council of Ministers, dropping hints that a Cabinet reshuffle is round the corner and that non-performers may be eased out. Some of the Ministers were told that they were not seen doing enough in their respective portfolios.

BJP National President J.P. Nadda was also present at the meeting where Ministers were asked for better coordination with the BJP. Sources added that the PM wants governance to be seen in tune with business as usual after a long spell of the COVID-19 shadow.

'Cheer4India' Selfie Point at Railway Station

(Continued from page 1)

"And this is why my countrymen, I advise you not to pressurise the players knowingly or unknowingly. We should support them with an open mind and encourage them. You can wish them on social media with #Cheer4India," Modi had said.

The games will begin in Tokyo from July 23 and as part of the 'Cheer4India' campaign, Railways have set Olympic Selfie Points in various Railway Stations for people to show their support. Mysuru Divisional Railway Manager Rahul Agarwal has urged rail users to click selfies and share them widely to encourage athletes.

However, the Selfie Point photo supplied to the media by the SWR Mysuru Division was objected to by athletes who have brought laurels to the Railways. **"We are sad that our efforts have not been recognised by the Mysuru Division. We are not against any athletes but by only taking their photos, the authorities have ignored our achievements," Somashekar, Railway Commercial Superintendent, told *Star of Mysore.***

Somashekar is a South Asian Games silver medallist and holds the record as the 'fastest man' in Railways. He is the Vice-President of Karnataka Athletics Association and also President of Mysuru Unit of Karnataka Athletics Association.

"There are hundreds of sportspersons in the Railways and none of them have been informed about the Selfie Point. For instance there is Zareena, an International-level basketball player whose team has won the Inter Railways Basketball Championship and has brought laurels to the South Western Railways," he said.

"If at all sportspersons in Railways have to be encouraged, all the stellar achievers must be called in to take selfies at the Selfie Point and the same photo must be supplied to the media," he said. Somashekar added that he is not against any sportsperson. "The only thing is that genuine achievers have to be recognised," he said.

*International and National players (from left) **Smitha, Rini, Gururaj, Hani, Somashekar and Mahesh pose in front of the Selfie Point at City Railway Station this morning.***

Increase in poaching during lockdown at Nagarahole

Forest Department intensifies vigil, seeks public help

Forest Department personnel during their operation at Nagarahole Forest to prevent poaching.

Hunsur, July 2 (Raghu&KS)- From the day the State went under lockdown two months ago giving smoke-and-sound-free environs to wild animals, which are moving around freely inside the National Parks and Tiger Reserves is indicating that nature is thriving during the Coronavirus pandemic with lack of human movement. But this has also given rise to poaching activities as nine poaching cases have been registered in Nagarahole Tiger Reserve Forest so far.

In a press meet by Hunsur Wildlife Sub-Division Assistant Conservator of Forests (ACF) A.V. Satish, Special Tiger Conservation Unit ACF Vivek Kavari, Hunsur Regional Division ACF Nagaraj and other officials, the officials provided information on three major poaching cases that were reported in Nagarahole alone in the last 15 days.

While three cases have been registered at Veeranahosahalli, one case each has been registered at Anechowkur, Nagarahole and Metikuppe and three more cases have been registered at Hunsur Forest Division.

On June 15, the Forest Department officials had seized meat of wild animals and deer antlers from the houses of Mohan and Anil Kumar at Lakshmipura village in Hunsur Wildlife Division. The officials, who seized the meat and antlers, have launched a hunt to nab the two accused, who are absconding.

On June 27, the Forest staff, who were on their regular beat at Anechowkur Range in Nagarahole Tiger Reserve, spotted four poachers and have managed to nab one of them identified as 52-year-old Narayana Nayaka of Chouthi village in Periyapatna taluk.

Appi, one of the poachers arrested by the Forest staff.

The Forest personnel have seized a Single Barrel Gun, a plastic bag and a machete from him besides registering a case. A hunt has been launched to nab Narayana's accomplices.

On June 29, the Hunsur Forest Department officials arrested a poacher, who had entered the forest to hunt wild animals and have seized a gun from him.

The accused is 45-year-old Appi of Channangi village in Virajpet taluk of Kodagu district. A case under Arms Act has been registered against him and the accused has been handed over to Periyapatna Police for further investigation.

On Tuesday night, when the Forest officials and staff of Muthur Range of Hunsur Wildlife Division coming under Nagarahole Tiger Reserve Forest were on their regular beat, found a group of poachers waiting to hunt wild animals at Anechowkur Range and raided the spot and arrested Appi, while two of his accomplices fled from the spot.

Muthur Forest Officer Prasanna Kumar, Forest Guard Jayaramu, driver Manoj and staff Rajanna , Paramesh and Mahadeva took part in the nabbing operation. Following instructions from Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF) Mahesh Kumar, Range Forest Officer (RFO) Hanumantharaju and team have launched a hunt to nab the accomplices of accused Appi.

The Forest officials said that a team of forest officials and a special team headed by ACF Satish, ACF Vivek Kavari and ACF Nagaraj along with six RFOs and 40 staff are daily monitoring and conducting raids on houses of suspected poachers at villages in Nagarahole Forest borders.

The Forest officers have sought the co-operation of public especially in border villages, to check the crime against wildlife.

Kannada book-lover Syed Isak

selected for G.P. Rajarathnam Award

Bengaluru, July 2 (KS) - Kannada book-lover Syed Isak of Rajivnagar in Mysuru, whose library was destroyed in a fire in the wee hours of Apr. 9 this year, has been selected for Dr. G.P. Rajarathnam Sahitya Paricharaka Award instituted by the Kannada Book Authority, Bengaluru, for the year 2020.

Syed Isak

The Award carries a cash prize of Rs. 50,000 and a citation.

Cheat Fund

Woman decamps with

Rs. 80 lakh chit fund, gold

Mysuru July 2 (RK&BCT)- Many chit funds or as they call it *cheeti vyavahara* in local parlance have run into trouble after duping the gullible and these cases have brought to light the dark side of the unorganised investment sector.

Despite warnings from the Government and Police cautioning the public not to invest in dubious ventures that promise the sky, people pour their hard-earned money into such chit funds. Though there are banks and post offices in every area where investment is safe though they do not promise high rates of interest, people still invest in unscrupulous *cheeti* floated by conmen and conwomen.

A complaint has been filed at Udayagiri Police Station against a woman at Sathagalli, who was running a chit fund business and the plaint states that the woman, identified as 58-year-old Hemalatha, has allegedly duped over 200 people of Rs. 80 lakh and has fled with 200 grams of gold pledged by the investors.

The complaint was filed on June 22 by Vijaya Venkatesh, a resident of Sathagalli. She has told the Police that Hemalatha used to reside at a house behind Sathagalli Saibaba Temple for the last five years. Hemalatha had taken the house on rent from one Anupama. Hemalatha was a familiar figure among the women circles as she used to visit temples befriending several women, who used to take part in *bhajans* and *pujas*.

Hemalatha used to run *cheeti* and she used to request women to invest in the monthly investment business and trusting her as she was a long-time resident of the area, many women invested money. Some have pooled in lakhs of rupees, as high returns were promised. Many women have even pledged gold ornaments without the knowledge of their husbands.

After the term of a particular *cheeti,* it has to be auctioned. But Hemalatha allegedly accumulated the money and kept assuring the investors that they will get more than the promised returns. Greed forced many women to sit quiet without approaching the Police. Meanwhile, Hemalatha moved to another house near Balamuri Ganapathi Temple and continued the business from there.

Even this too did not ring any alarm bells. Vijaya Venkatesh has told the Police that she has allegedly been cheated of Rs. 5 lakh and one more woman by name Padma was also allegedly cheated of Rs. 5 lakh. The Police complaint stated that Hemalatha had allegedly borrowed money from many private financiers in the name of several women and had taken the money for her personal use.

Another woman Sujatha has been allegedly cheated of 150 gram gold and Rs. 5 lakh, Rs. 4.5 lakh from Sushma Rs. 2 lakh from Saroja and had now vacated the house overnight. Udayagiri Inspector Jayakeerthi has registered a case and is collecting information from women who have been conned.

Fake vehicle loan racket busted

(Continued from page 1)

"Obtaining loans for such forged papers is not possible unless there is involvement of RTO officials. Not only Mysuru, the racket is spread to Bengaluru also," said a Police officer. The accused had relations with RTO officers at different cities including Mysuru and Bengaluru, the Police said.

Police said that the accused had taken different loans for vehicles of Ashok Leyland and TATA Motors. But later, it was found that the documents were fake and the vehicles were not even manufactured. Loan recovery manager of the finance company alerted the company manager and the case was booked.

M.S. Geetha Prasanna

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Crime and Traffic) M.S. Geetha Prasanna said that they have arrested 15 persons so far.

"The RTO offices were closed due to COVID and as such, it hampered the investigation. We are collecting documentary evidence now. As some of the accused in the racket are Government officers, we need substantiate proof to arrest them," she said.

Sources said that the Devaraja Police had raided the RTO office at Electronics City in Bengaluru and also the Central RTO Office to recover vital documents relating to the fraud.

Also, in the preliminary investigation, the Police found that it is not required to take the vehicle physically to the RTO for registration. Most of the registration process is done online and the fraudsters took advantage of it. After generating a vehicle registration certificate (RC) on forged papers, the accused used it to show a resale. The gang would then approach the finance companies to borrow loans on forged papers.

Minister questions officials on unspent Rs.97 crore funds

Mysuru, July 2 (YDS&DM)-Bemoaning that Rs.58 crore out of the Legislators Local Area Development Fund has remained unspent in the district, Minister for Youth Empowerment and Sports, Planning, Programme Monitoring and Statistics K.C. Narayanagowda questioned the officials on why Rs. 23 crore under Special Component Plan (SCP) and Rs. 16 crore under Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) has remained unspent.

Speaking at the progress review meeting of his Department at the Deputy Commissioner's office here yesterday, Narayanagowda cautioned that the unspent Rs.23 crore SCP fund and Rs.16 crore TSP fund will have to be reallocated to other districts if Mysuru district authorities fail to utilise it for developmental purposes.

Stating that people in rural areas have been complaining about improper execution of development works, he regretted that the authorities had failed in proper planning and spending of funds for civil infrastructure development.

The officials attributed the delay in the execution of works to closure of shops due to lockdown, to which Narayanagowda asked them not to give excuses as lockdown has been relaxed.

He also directed the officials to make regular visits to spots where works are being carried out and check the pace and quality of works.

Continuing, Narayanagowda said that Deputy Commissioner Dr. Bagadi Gautham has been entrusted with complete powers for utilisation of Legislators Local Area Development Funds. Praising the DC for judicious utilisation of funds for COVID control measures, he said that the DC has set in motion various developmental works worth Rs.9 crore so far.

Referring to crop insurance, the Minister said that a target of 12,000 registration has been set in the district for crop insurance for the year 2021-22 and so far 3,000 farmers have registered. He appealed the farmers to get registered for crop insurance, which will be a boon for them in case of failure of monsoon.

DC Dr. Bagadi Gautham asked the officials to utilise at least 25 percent of Legislators Local Area Development Fund in a week. He also asked them to submit documents in support of the funds spent within July 7.

Commissioner for Sports H.N. Gopalakrishna, ZP CEO A.M.Yogesh, Additional DC Dr. B.S. Manjunathaswamy, Assistant Director of Sports Omprakash and other officials were present.

MLAs will decide on 'next CM' post-2023 Assembly polls: Siddharamaiah

Siddharamaiah

Mysuru, July 2 (MTY&SSV)-Laying all speculations about next Chief Minister to rest, Leader of Opposition in the State Legislative Assembly Siddharamaiah categorically stated that this question is not before the party at present as it will be decided by legislators in Congress Legislature Party meeting after 2023 Assembly polls.

"Discussing this issue has no relevance now. Besides, this subject is not at all before the party. Still there is lot of time to decide on this subject," he told media at his residence in Ramakrishnanagar here yesterday.

On alleged differences of opinion with KPCC President D.K. Shivakumar, the former CM ruled out any rift with the State Party Chief and said both of them enjoy a good chemistry.

About prevailing original and outsider internal war in State Congress Unit, Siddharamaiah said in that case, he should not have become Chief Minister since he came from Janata Dal (Secular). No such difference exists within the party, he claimed.

The former CM also downplayed controversy surrounding over the election to the post of Karnataka Pradesh Youth Congress Committee President and said the result was on hold for some reasons. However, the same has been cleared by National Youth Congress Committee and has declared Raksha Ramaiah as new President of Pradesh Youth Congress Committee, he stated.

Convene Assembly Session to discuss COVID

Former Chief Minister and Leader of the Opposition Siddharamaiah on Thursday urged Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa to convene Assembly Session immediately to discuss many issues including COVID-19 situation.

Speaking to newspersons in Mysuru yesterday, he said that the ruling party is scared to face the Opposition and that is why it does not want to have a session.

"The BJP Government will definitely stand exposed during the session. If Yediyurappa believes in democracy, he should call for an Assembly Session," Siddharamaiah claimed.

On CM Yediyurappa's hesitation to visit Chamarajanagar 'due to superstition', the Congress leader said, "as Chief Minister I visited Chamarajanagar 12 times. Yediyurappa should go there to know the problems of the people."

Don't hold SSLC examination

Siddharamaiah urged the State Government not to hold SSLC examination this month by risking lives of lakhs of students. Already, second year PU examination has been cancelled and why the same yardstick was not applied to SSLC examination? he asked.

"Primary and Secondary Education Minister S. Suresh Kumar was in a great hurry to hold the SSLC examination without bothering its effects on parents, teachers and students. He has even kept Health and Medical Education Minister Dr. K. Sudhakar in dark about the examination. It shows lack of coordination among Ministers on important decisions. I will urge the Government to hold SSLC and PU examinations or cancel both of them," he said.

Siddharamaiah flayed the Government for misleading people on vaccine supply. While Health Minister Dr. Sudhakar says there is no shortage of vaccine, but the vaccination drive has stopped in all districts owing to non-availability of vaccine. People were cursing the incumbent Government for its failure to ensure the adequate stock of vaccine to its citizens, he said.

Clash of Commissioners in public: Siddu unhappy

Mysuru, July 2 (PM&SSV)-Former CM and Leader of Opposition in the State Legislative Assembly Siddharamaiah expressed serious displeasure over previous Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) Commissioner Shilpa Nag going before media to hurl charges against former Deputy Commissioner Rohini Sindhuri recently.

"The IAS Officers can talk to media only about the Government programmes but not personal matters of fellow officers," Siddharamaiah remarked while talking to a few leaders including former Commissioner of MCC Dr. C. G. Betsurmath, presently working as Executive Secretary of JSS Mahavidyapeetha, in the premises of Suttur Mutt here yesterday.

He said he was very much upset about the alleged shadow boxing between Rohini Sindhuri and Shilpa Nag and said it was not right on the part of IAS Officers to go before media and make allegations against each other. The Service rules do not permit them to talk about personal matters of their colleagues before media. Shilpa Nag has erred by making charges against the then Mysuru DC Rohini Sindhuri, he added.

Swimming Pool row

The former CM opined that if Rohini Sindhuri has really constructed a swimming pool inside *Jala Sannidhi*, the official residence of Deputy Commissioner, a heritage building, by flouting rules, then she should have been suspended immediately. Officers are not permitted to speak about personal matters before media. They should have brought it the notice of senior officers, Siddharamaiah noted.

Hunsur's Hakki-Pikki tribes lose incomes, stare at hunger

Hanagodu, July 2 (Mahesh,DM&BCT)- Tribal and Hakki-Pikki communities living on the forest fringes and small hamlets of Hunsur and Hanagodu might stay safe from COVID infection but they are pushed into poverty and starvation as their lone source of livelihood, passed on from generations has been cut off, thanks to lockdown.

The lockdown has not only made the urban rural divide conspicuous but also gave a glimpse of the depth of inequality in our societies. Unless urgent measures are taken to uplift them through Government schemes, their survival even after the lockdown is lifted looks doubtful and arduous.

The unprecedented situation brought upon by an extended lockdown has jeopardised the livelihoods, food and nutritional security of many families of Hakki-Pikki communities who depended hugely on Ayurvedic treatment, massages and herbal remedies to lead a life. They earlier sold plant extracts and offered massages to people with body ache and other ailments.

Hakki-Pikki community, one of the important nomadic communities of the State, are known for their various indigenous herbal products. Along with Hakki-Pikki communities there are Shillekyatas, also a tribal community, who live in Shankarapura and Pakshirajapura villages in Hunsur Taluk. The tribals even go abroad to sell their herbal products and offer massages and their massages are famous as "Pakshirajapura massage."

Pakshirajapura and Shankarapura have the rare distinction of having the most number of passport holders in Mysuru district. Although a majority of them either do not have education at all or less education, they are known for speaking a good number of languages.

Every year, tens of the community members travel across the globe to sell their products, especially herbal oils. Many times, these people are caught by foreign Police for selling these products as they are not certified or on charges of expiry of visa.

Their multi-language speaking ability enabled them to work in foreign countries as flower decorators, flower sellers, handicraft sellers etc. They are also well-versed in herbal hair oil extraction, which they used to sell to customers both in the country and abroad.

But the lockdown since last year has disrupted their lives and in the post-first wave, they somehow managed to re-establish their trade and connections which were cut off. They managed to create a market locally too for beads and ornaments, small plastic wares and artificial garlands.

But by the time their business picked up, the deadly COVID second wave struck. Taking note of the ability and skills of these people, Social Welfare Minister B. Sriramulu had set up a herbal medicine processing unit at Pakshirajapura and had taken pains to ensure a brand for the products manufactured here.

Such a centre trained the community members in preparing various herbal products, especially various oils, by following standard protocols required for the certification, branding and marketing after fixing prices.

But despite all this, the COVID pandemic and the subsequent lockdown have made the nomadic families a worried lot as they have no market for their produce or jobs in hand. Their problems are all the more compounded as 90 percent of them have little or no knowledge of agriculture and with no other source of income or other means of livelihood, their lives have become miserable.

President of Kirangooru Gram Panchayat Triveni, under whose jurisdiction Pakshirajapura and Shankarapura come, has urged the Government to announce special grants for the upliftment of these poor nomadic families, who are essentially craft workers. Women in the communities are finding it extremely difficult to cope with the unprecedented situations arising out of the extended lockdown.

"We are expecting Government support to continue our community profession. Many of us travel abroad who need support. We want to preserve our rich knowledge for our next generation," said Shivu, a youth at Shankarapura▪

A Hakki-Pikki man selling beads and ornaments.

A scene at Hakki-Pikki Hamlet in Shankarapura.

Kirangooru Gram Panchayat President Triveni.

Medicine making at one of the houses.

The Hakki-Pikki community members display their products.

WORD OF THE DAY

Lickety-split

Pronunciation: lik-i-tee-split
Meaning: At great speed; rapidly.
Origin: The adverb lickety-split, "at great speed; rapidly," was originally and remains mostly a colloquialism. The origin of lickety is fanciful—an extension of lick "to move quickly, run at full speed." And split means "fraction," as in split second. Lickety-split entered English in the first half of the 19th century.
Example: Well, pretty soon, after we had got down to level country and were making the speedometer earn its board, I happened to look around and, good night, there was an automobile coming along lickety-split, about a quarter of a mile behind us. —Percy Keese Fitzhugh, Roy Blakeley's Silver Fox Patrol, 1920.

THE ODD WORD

Laetificate

To cheer up.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Learn the ropes

Meaning: To learn how to do something.
Origin: Not surprisingly, the origin of the idiom "learn the ropes" is nautical. Before the days of ships powered by steam or fossil fuel, almost all ships had sails. New recruits had to learn how to tie knots and manipulate the ropes that moved the sails to capture wind most effectively; this series of lessons was termed "learning the ropes."
Example: "Once I learn the ropes at my new job, I won't be so nervous and I'll be very good at the work I do."

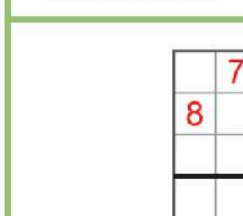
QUOTE BOX

Life is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're going to get.

—Forrest Gump

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:



Answer :Head in the sand.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

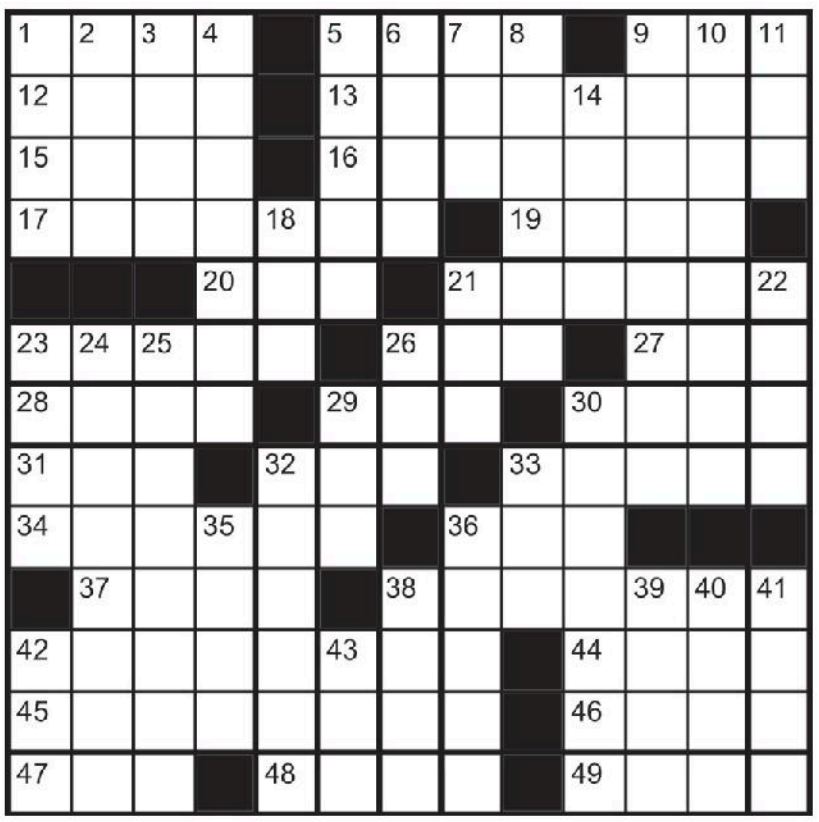
1 Continually finds fault
5 First victim of fratricide?
9 IIM grad
12 Sri Lankan bowler Chandana of recent past
13 Musical performances
15 Deep mud
16 Germanic
17 Lady's room
19 Curry and Rice
20 Command to a horse
21 Assigns or distributes
23 Tribal symbol
26 Menlo Park monogram
27 ___ up : excited or overwrought?
28 Peruse
29 Neither partner
30 Change or diverge
31 Inshort, responsetoaquestion
32 Contend with
33 Wash; clean
34 Part of saddle
36 Anatomical pouch
37 Cambodia's neighbour
38 Grave inscription
42 Short musical composition
44 Famous cookie
45 Rabble-rousing trouble-maker
46 Spool
47 Monetary unit of Burma - "pay" anagram?
48 Singular fish!
49 Measurement

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

E	V	A	■	S	M	O	G	■	C	A	R	D
L	I	P	■	E	A	R	L	■	O	V	U	M
B	A	S	I	L	I	C	A	■	R	I	N	K
A	L	O	O	F	■	A	S	S	N	■	■	■
■	■	■	N	E	S	■	S	K	E	T	C	H
T	R	E	A	S	O	N	■	Y	A	H	O	O
S	A	G	■	T	H	A	I	S	■	A	A	G
A	G	A	P	E	■	E	S	C	O	R	T	S
R	E	D	E	E	M	■	O	R	D	■	■	■
■	■	■	O	M	I	T	■	A	E	S	O	P
K	E	L	P	■	D	R	O	P	S	T	H	E
E	V	I	L	■	G	I	B	E	■	E	M	S
G	E	N	E	■	E	M	I	R	■	T	S	O

DOWN

1 Unfeeling
2 Peruvian carrot
3 Eastern teacher
4 Travelled or conveyed on snow, perhaps
5 "I rate" a change for this man?
6 Lager or ale
7 Old French coin
8 Small
9 Our former PM Dr __ Singh
10 Water filled sores
11 Aircraft Sys. Controllers
14 Hard work
18 Original Equip. Manufacturer
21 ___ Paar: 1954 Guru Dutt movie
22 Eye complaint
23 Ambush
24 Wine science
25 Island state off SE Australia
26 Digit of foot
29 Nought
30 Win
32 Small matches with small wooden stumps
33 Bollywood's Aishwarya __ Bachchan
35 Ditch around a castle
36 Not ___ oneself : exert to the utmost?
38 Organic compound
39 An extent of land
40 Equal in any respect?
41 ___ one's own : maintain one's position or condition?
42 Plant juice
43 IRS in India



SUDOKU

	7		9	5	6			4
8			7					
		9		4				1
							2	3
		4				5		
2	8							
5				3		9		
					5			7
7			1	6	4		3	

Answer to previous puzzle

7	8	2	5	6	4	1	3	9
6	9	3	8	7	1	4	2	5
4	1	5	3	2	9	7	6	8
3	4	7	9	8	2	6	5	1
1	6	8	4	3	5	2	9	7
5	2	9	7	1	6	3	8	4
8	7	1	2	9	3	5	4	6
9	3	4	6	5	7	8	1	2
2	5	6	1	4	8	9	7	3

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

OR FGR FAA DE ZB GRBYHMRS KD SRFKW:

YK'B AYER OR FGRM'K GRBYHMRS KD.

TODAY'S CLUE: F EQUALS A

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: The quickest way of ending a war is to lose it.

Grocery kits distributed to Zoo employees

Mysuru, July 2 - Grocery kits were distributed to Mysuru Zoo employees by Bank of Baroda at an event organised at the Zoo's Amphitheatre recently.

Speaking on the occasion, Zoo Authority of Karnataka (ZAK) Chairman L.R. Mahadevaswamy said that the erstwhile Mysuru rulers used to catch wild animals and keep them in the Zoo to display them to guests and other persons. But now, everyone could take a look at various wild animals and know about them, he added.

Continuing, he said that following COVID pandemic, the footfalls to Mysuru Zoo had declined and many animal lovers began to adopt Mysuru Zoo animals. Even industries, banks and big companies are adopting Zoo animals through their CSR funds, he added and thanked all those who helped various Zoos in the State by adopting Zoo animals.

Bank of Baroda Regional Manager Sudhakar Nayak, who distributed grocery bags to Zoo employees said that the Bank has reserved more than Rs. 2 lakh to be utilised for social cause and added that the Bank's Regional Office was opened on Sunday last. On this occasion, grocery bags were distributed to Zoo employees.

Pointing out that Baroda has connection with Mysuru, Sudhakar Nayak said that the Sayyaji Rao Road in Mysuru was named after Baroda Maharaja Sayyaji Rao Gaikwad and added that there is a road in Baroda which has been named after a Mysuru King. He further said that the Bank of Baroda would always extend its help to Mysuru Zoo through CSR intiatives.

Mysuru Zoo Executive Director Ajit M. Kulkarni, Bank of Baroda Manager Muralikrishna, Lokesh, RFO Ramachandrappa, Raghu, ZAK members Gokul Govardhan and Jyothi Rechanna were present.

Trust provides groceries to Pourakarmikas

Continuing their services to the poor during the current COVID pandemic, Srinivasan Services Trust (SST), the social arm of TVS Motor Company and Sundaram-Clayton Ltd, in a bid to reach out to the local community affected by COVID-19, distributed groceries and other daily essential items to hundreds of Pourakarmikas in Mysuru district recently. The essentials were distributed by SST Field Director Puttamadaiah along with General Manager K. Vijaykumar, Liaison Officer of TVS Motor Company P.C. Jayanna and others.

Vaccinate hair-dressers on priority: Savitha Samaja urges officials

Mysuru, July 2 (SPN&SD) - Members of Savitha Samaja met Backward Classes Welfare Department officials recently and urged them to vaccinate barbers and hair-dressers on priority.

Members of Savitha Samaja led by its President N.R. Nagesh met Backward Classes Welfare Department District Officer Bindiya and conveyed the importance of vaccinating barbers and hair-dressers of the district on priority. "All barbers including owners and workers of hair-cutting salons and beauty parlours of all taluks in Mysuru district should get vaccinated on a priority basis. District and Taluk health officials should be apprised of the same," they said.

Savitha Samaja leader Harish Reddy, Bannur Municipality member Sowmya Rani, Muralidhar of T.Narasipur, Raju Reddy and others were present.

Avadoota Datta Peetha hands over groceries to Brahmin families

In a bid to provide some relief to poor Brahmin families, who are in financial crisis due to COVID lockdown, grocery kits were distributed to such families by Mysuru's Avadoota Datta Peetha recently. The kits were handed over symbolically by Junior Pontiff Sri Datta Vijayananda Teertha Swamiji to community leader D.T. Prakash. Dr. Bhanuprakash Sharma and Raghuram Vajpayee were present.

Food kits distribution marks Dr. Yathindra Siddharamaiah's birthday

On the occasion of Varuna MLA Dr. Yathindra Siddharamaiah's birthday, grocery kits were distributed to over 100 families in K.R. Constituency in city on Monday last. The kits were distributed by Congress leader N.M. Naveen Kumar along with Brahmin community leaders Dr. Raghuram Vajpayee and Nataraj Jois. Congress leaders M. Rajesh, Shobha Rajesh, City Youth Congress President Mohammed Haris, Devaraj Urs Block Youth Congress President Pailwan Sunil, Syed Abbas, Syed Rizwan, Phanish, Suresh, Srinivas and others were present.

Plea to release COVID package for Masjids, Imams and other staff

Mysuru, July 2 (KS) - Khwaja Mohammed Musheer Chishti, Organising Secretary of Masjid-e-Moula Hussain at Sathyanagar in city, has urged the Chief Minister, District Minister and other elected representatives to release COVID-19 relief package to Masjids, Imams and Mouzan staff as announced by the CM early this month.

In a press release, he has stated that following COVID-induced lockdown, all Masjids were closed since more than two months and staff rendering their services at various Masjids were facing difficulties to take care of their house and medical expenses.

Khwaja Mohammed Musheer Chishti and others have requested the Chief Minister and other elected representatives to release the funds at the earliest and extend the COVID relief package to staff of Dargas, Asarakhanas, Astanas, Sajadha Nasheen, Darvesh, Fukras and also enhance the package to Rs. 10,000 besides providing concession in CESC and water bills.

Grocery kits were given away to the staff of the Primary Health Centre on Chamaraja Double Road in city. The kits were distributed by MUDA member Naveen Kumar and Melukote Vangipura Mutt's Sri Ilai Alwar Swamiji. Kanthilal, Guru Manjunath, Naveen and others were present.

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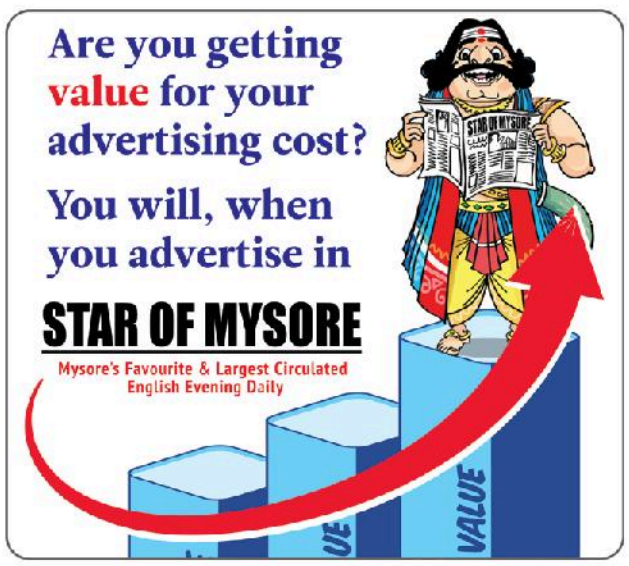
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & MADA CEREMONY

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We thank all our family, friends, relatives, neighbours and all those who conveyed their condolences following the sad and untimely demise of our beloved **Accapanda Kashi Kuttappa** on **Sunday the 27th June 2021.**

The Mada Ceremony will be held in their residence at Mysore on **Wednesday 7th July 2021 at 11.00 AM.**, in the presence of family members.

Considering the difficult times and keeping everyone's safety in mind against the backdrop of the prevailing COVID-19 pandemic guidelines, We request your presence in thoughts and prayers. Please treat this as a personal message from us. **Thank you once again for your support.**

—In Grief: Mrs. Accapanda Jyothi Kashi, Kodagarahalli Village and Post, Sunticoppa, Kodagu, Mrs & Mr. Muckatira Appaiah & Arjun, Mrs. Smitha and Family & Family Members. Mobile: 94483 45063

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